



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-50 (canceled).

51. (Previously presented) A purified polypeptide, encoded by a polynucleotide comprising an Open Reading Frame contained within SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the polynucleotide is selected from:

(a) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,697,420 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome;

(b) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,699,892 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome;

(c) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,701,088 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome;

(d) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,702,588 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome;

(e) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,704,091 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome;

(f) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,705,056 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome;

(g) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,705,784 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome;

(h) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,706,593 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome;

(i) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,707,524 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome; or

(j) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,708,648 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome.

52. (Previously presented) A purified polypeptide, encoded by a polynucleotide, comprising an Open Reading Frame contained within SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the polynucleotide is selected from:

(a) nucleotide 1,696,728 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(b) nucleotide 1,698,096 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(c) nucleotide 1,700,210 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(d) nucleotide 1,701,293 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(e) nucleotide 1,703,072 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(f) nucleotide 1,704,091 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(g) nucleotide 1,705,056 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(h) nucleotide 1,705,808 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(i) nucleotide 1,706,631 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome; or

(j) nucleotide 1,707,530 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome.

53. (Previously presented) A purified polypeptide, encoded by a polynucleotide, comprising an Open Reading Frame contained within SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the polynucleotide is selected from:

(a) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,698,096 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(b) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,700,210 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(c) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,701,293 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(d) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,703,072 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(e) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,704,091 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(f) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,705,056 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(g) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,705,808 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(h) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,706,631 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome; or

(i) nucleotide 1,696,019 through nucleotide 1,707,530 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome.

54. (Previously presented) A purified polypeptide, encoded by a polynucleotide, comprising an Open Reading Frame contained within SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the polynucleotide is selected from:

(a) nucleotide 1,696,441 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(b) nucleotide 1,697,420 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(c) nucleotide 1,699,892 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(d) nucleotide 1,701,088 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(e) nucleotide 1,702,588 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(f) nucleotide 1,704,091 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(g) nucleotide 1,705,056 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(h) nucleotide 1,705,784 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome;

(i) nucleotide 1,707,524 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* chromosome; or

(j) nucleotide 1,706,593 through nucleotide 1,708,746 of the Mycobacterium tuberculosis chromosome.

55-56 (canceled).

57 (New). A purified polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide, comprising an Open Reading Frame contained within SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the polynucleotide consists of ORF6 between nucleotide 1,703,072 through nucleotide 1,704,091.